

From: Rick Ennis *MEH*
To: Ronda Daflucas *Energy*
Date: 3/18/04 7:20AM
Subject: Confirmation of Info Regarding Bill Sherman Letter

Ronda,

As we discussed, in preparing our response to Bill Sherman's letter dated 12/8/03, I need confirmation of several items regarding VYNPS operation related to ensuring containment integrity is not impaired. The specific statements I need verified are as follows:

1. Containment integrity in a Mark I pressure suppression containment such as at VYNPS is continuously monitored during normal operation since the containment is inerted, that is, air is removed and the containment is filled with nitrogen gas. Any significant increase in the amount of nitrogen that must be supplied to the containment might be a sign of degradation in containment integrity and would be observed by the reactor operators. The operators would then take the appropriate action in accordance with the VYNPS TSs.
2. Another sign of loss of integrity would be the presence of oxygen gas in containment. Monitors provide continuous assurance that no oxygen is present. Again, if oxygen were detected, the operators would take the appropriate action in accordance with the VYNPS TSs.
3. BWR emergency operating procedures, including those at VYNPS, include a note to the reactor operators to terminate the containment sprays before the containment pressure drops below that required for adequate NPSH.

Thanks,

Rick

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